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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
LANSING

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DIRECTOR

**DIRECTOR'S OFFICE MEMORANDUM 2013 - 12**

**EFFECTIVE:** January 1, 2013

**DATE:** December 13, 2012

**TO:** Executive Policy Team  
Administrative Management Team  
Wardens

**FROM:** Daniel H. Heyns, Director

**SUBJECT:** PD 05.03.118 "Prisoner Mail" - Security Threat Group Signs/Symbols

**SUPERSEDES 2012 - 13 (effective 2/1/12)**

PD 05.03.118 prohibits prisoners from receiving any mail that depicts a sign or symbol of a security threat group (STG) based on the belief that such signs and symbols pose a threat to the security, good order, or discipline of the facility, facilitate or encourage criminal activity, or interfere with the rehabilitation of the prisoner under all circumstances. This restriction was re-evaluated in 2011 based on the more common use today of some signs and symbols that historically were used solely to identify gang allegiance. As a result, mail containing an STG sign or symbol are not to be rejected under all circumstances but instead shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if the sign or symbol is otherwise prohibited under PD 05.03.118. If it is believed to violate policy, a Notice of Package/Mail Rejection shall be issued to the prisoner identifying how the STG sign or symbol is believed to pose a threat to the security, good order, or discipline of the facility, facilitate or encourage criminal activity, or interfere with the rehabilitation of the prisoner.